Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society
Post Office Box 1255
Suffolk, Virginia 23434

Fall - 1989

N E W S L E T T E R

CALENDAR

October 26 - Fall Meeting
Nov. 12 - Dec. 31 - Riddick's Folly Exhibit - The Romance of the Rails
December 2 - Dinner at the Hotel Elliott
December 3 - Thirteenth Annual Candlelight Tour

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FALL MEETING - OCTOBER 26, 1989

It is our pleasure to inform you that Nick Luccketti of the James River Institute for Archaeology will be the guest speaker at the Historical Society's fall meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, October 26th at 7:30 p.m. at Riddick's Folly.

Mr. Luccketti, an archaeologist based in Jamestown, will present and display the artifacts recovered from excavating the Woodward-Jones House near Driver. Further, Mr. Luccketti is currently involved in a most exciting exploration of a fort site on the Harbor View property in northern Suffolk. There is evidence to suggest that this fort may have been constructed in 1611 by Sir Thomas Dale; if true, the fort will be the earliest complete English fort found in the United States as the first Jamestown fort has never been located. Mr. Luccketti will inform us of the status of that exploration as well as the presentation of the Woodward-Jones House project.

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PAST EXHIBITS

The Historical Society has recently been involved with two exhibits. The exhibit "America Takes To The Road" was displayed at Riddick's Folly from mid-July through mid-August. The exhibit was viewed by over 200 people during that period, which numbers reportedly were good considering the time of year. More recently, Sue Woodward has chaired, on behalf of the Historical Society, the "Suffolk Places" portion of the "Suffolk Places - Suffolk Faces" Exhibit, jointly undertaken with the Suffolk Art League. Our thanks to Sue for a job well done and warmly received by the public.

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NEW OFFICERS

A new set of officers was elected in June to serve a two year term. They are as follows:

President	Jim Moore
Vice-President	Alvah Wilcox
Recording Secretary	Lynn Rose
Corresponding Secretary	Mary Damiani
Treasurer(s)	Euell and Dorothy Williams
Historian	Marian Watson

In addition to the above officers, Sue Woodward will remain as a member of the Executive Committee and will also be Chairman of the Christmas Tour. Judy Everett will continue as Publications Chairman and Mary Hart Darden will serve as Membership Chairman.

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PLEASE NOTE

The Birdsong Trust has been most gracious with its donation of $2,000.00 to the Historical Society for use in paying Sandra Joyner to complete the cataloging of our various collections.

For those of you who may be interested in a restoration project in the old downtown Suffolk, the Norfolk Welder's building, located at 341 North Main Street is for sale. For further information, please contact me at my law office number of 934-1313.

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CHRISTMAS TOUR '89

This year's Candlelight Tour will be held in the downtown area. While this area has been our business district for more than a hundred years, this was not our first "downtown". Suffolk started at the river and the town grew from there so that prior to 1837 "downtown" meant the area around the river (and Riddick's Folly).

A fire in 1837 destroyed that part of town and the railroad had come to the "newer" part of town (nearest present downtown) so the change came. The present downtown area has risen like a phoenix from the ashes of two major fires - one in 1885 and one in 1888.

We will open for your pleasure five buildings (six if you take the lunch tour) - some old, some new, all with an interesting story to tell about downtown. As usual, greenery, refreshments, and music will add a festive mood.